IN THE CLAIMS

1-19. CANCELLED

20. (Currently amended) An ablation catheter, comprising:

a catheter body having proximal and distal ends and having a longitudinally extending internal lumen and carrying an elongated conductor therein;

a catheter head located at distal portion of the catheter body, the catheter head provided with a longitudinally extending recess in fluid communication with the lumen of the lead body and having flanges extending laterally from the recess; and

an electrode coupled to the conductor within the ~~lead~~ catheter body and extending along the recess.

21. (Original) An ablation catheter according to claim 20, wherein the electrode is located within the recess.

22. (Currently amended) An ablation catheter, comprising:

a catheter body having proximal and distal ends and having a longitudinally extending internal lumen and carrying an elongated conductor therein;

a catheter head located at distal portion of the catheter body, the catheter head provided with a longitudinally extending series of recesses in fluid communication with the lumen of the lead body and having flanges extending laterally from the recesses; and

an electrode coupled to the conductor within the lead body and extending along the series of recesses.

23. (Currently amended) An ablation catheter according to claim 22, wherein the electrode ~~is~~ being located alongside the recesses.

24. (Original) An ablation catheter, comprising:

a catheter body having proximal and distal ends and having a longitudinally extending internal lumen and carrying an elongated conductor therein;

a catheter head located at distal portion of the catheter body, the catheter head provided with a recess in fluid communication with the lumen of the lead body and having flanges extending laterally from the recess; and

an electrode coupled to the conductor within the lead body and extending alongside the recess.

25. (Currently amended) An ablation catheter, comprising:

a catheter body having proximal and distal ends and having a longitudinally extending internal lumen and carrying an elongated conductor therein;

a catheter head located at distal portion of the catheter body, the catheter head provided with a recess in fluid communication with the lumen of the lead body and having flanges extending laterally from the recesses; and

an electrode coupled to the conductor within the lead body and located within the recess.

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34. (Original) A method of ablation, comprising:

advancing to a desired site an ablation catheter comprising a catheter body having proximal and distal ends and having a longitudinally extending internal lumen and carrying an elongated conductor therein; a catheter head located at distal portion of the catheter body, the catheter head provided with a longitudinally extending recess in fluid communication with the lumen of the lead body and having flanges extending laterally from the recess; and an electrode coupled to the conductor within the lead body and extending along the recess;

applying suction to the lumen within the lead body to draw the tissue into the recess and into contact with the electrode; and

applying RF energy to the conductor.

35. (Original) A method of ablation, comprising:

advancing to a desired site an ablation catheter comprising a catheter body having proximal and distal ends and having a longitudinally extending internal lumen and carrying an elongated conductor therein; a catheter head located at distal portion of the catheter body, the catheter head provided with a longitudinally extending series of recesses in fluid communication with the lumen of the lead body and having flanges extending laterally from the recess; and an electrode coupled to the conductor within the lead body and extending along the series of recesses;

applying suction to the lumen within the lead body to draw the tissue against the recesses and into contact with the electrode; and

applying RF energy to the conductor.

36. (Currently amended) A method of ablation, comprising:

advancing to a desired site an ablation catheter comprising a catheter body having proximal and distal ends and having a longitudinally extending internal lumen and carrying an elongated conductor therein; a catheter head located at distal portion of the catheter body, the catheter head provided with a recess in fluid communication with the lumen of the lead body and having flanges extending laterally from the recess; and an electrode coupled to the conductor within the lead body and extending alongside the recess;

applying suction to the lumen within the lead body to draw ~~the~~ tissue against the recesses and into contact with the electrode; and

applying RF energy to the conductor.

37. (Original) A method of ablation, comprising:

advancing to a desired site an ablation catheter comprising a catheter body having proximal and distal ends and having a longitudinally extending internal lumen and carrying an elongated conductor therein; a catheter head located at distal portion of the catheter body, the catheter head provided with a recess in fluid communication with the lumen of the lead body and having flanges extending laterally from the recess; and an electrode coupled to the conductor within the lead body and located within the recess;

applying suction to the lumen within the lead body to draw the tissue into the recess and into contact with the electrode; and

applying RF energy to the conductor.

38-40. CANCELLED